



KALAMAZOO
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

link



**Art Contest
Entries Due
October 5, 2011**

**Grand Prize
\$1,000**

banned books week art contest

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees your right to decide for yourself what you read, listen to, or view. Banned Books Week, observed since 1982, reminds Americans not to take this precious right for granted. Celebrate your intellectual freedom with the American Civil Liberties Union and Kalamazoo Public Library!

Artists are invited to create original art inspired by the censure of one of the following books, among those most frequently challenged or banned in 2010, for a contest cosponsored by the ACLU and KPL. Entries will be displayed at the October 7 Art Hop.

- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich
- *Revolutionary Voices* edited by Amy Sonnie

Both senior (over 18 years) and junior (students in grades 7-12) artists may enter the art contest. The ACLU will award several cash prizes: \$1,000 to the senior winner and three junior prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50. Entries due October 5. Learn more at www.kpl.gov/art-contest.

on the edge: reading, teens, transformation

How do teens approach reading? Why do they devour dark literature? What attracts teens to stories about fantastic, bizarre, even horrifying characters, events, and worlds? And, how can we encourage teens to continue reading?

The 34th annual Mary Calletto Rife Youth Literature Seminar on November 4 will feature bestselling authors Holly Black and Robin Wasserman.



The wondrous world Holly Black created in her beloved series *The Spiderwick Chronicles* enchanted kids 8 to 11. Her new series, *Curse Workers*, features much darker fantasy that *Booklist* calls "a sleek and stylish blend of urban fantasy and crime noir" about mobster wizards.



Robin Wasserman explored *Seven Deadly Sins* in seven books about seven teens "determined to get what they want." In her *Cold Awakening Trilogy*, Lia, body crushed in an accident, is reborn as a machine. "A convincing and imaginative dystopia," according to *Kirkus Reviews*.

Explore the transformation and future of print, publishing, and teen literature with Holly, Robin, and others. Learn more at www.kpl.gov/youth-lit.

no more paper

October 1, 2011, KPL will discontinue mailing paper overdue and hold notices. After that date, patrons will receive messages by email, phone, or text.

KPL currently mails more than 2,500 notices using ink, paper, and postage every month. Email, phone, and text will save money and reduce KPL's environmental impact.

Beginning in July, KPL encouraged patrons to help this effort by updating their library account, through the "Verify My Record" contest.

There's still time to enter! Tell KPL how you want to receive overdue and hold notices—by email, phone, or text—and make sure all your personal information is up-to-date.

Fill out the contest entry form at your neighborhood library by September 3. Don't delay! You could win an Apple iPad, Kindle 3G, or iTunes gift card.



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september & october events



Anthony B. Graves

Mercy Stands Most Mornings

Mercy stands most mornings. Empty seats beckon on the stained benches of the old parking lot, but she is stalwart in stance and hawk-eyed, watching.

Today I approach her for an early-morning greet and receive a small, quiet nod and that day's prophecy: "Look to the east," she says, "whence cometh our hope."

I look and understand that all the west-facing seats offer no view for her of the slowly-rising sun casting first rays on Mercy's stoic face.

Silently
I step aside
to make room for light.

– Marianne Novak Houston
On the Street

books & more

authors

Marianne Novak Houston and Anthony B. Graves

September 28, 7 pm, CEN

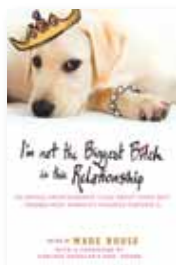


Houston wrote this collection of poems and prose poems over many years, giving voice to the histories, dreams, realities, frustrations, and the undeniable gifts and talents found among individuals *on the street*. In its pages,

you will meet rare and remarkable individuals, and may encounter something of yourself in their stories. Graves' photo-art enhances the collection. Book profits go to support Ministry with Community.

Wade Rouse

October 5, 7 pm, CEN



In this hilarious anthology, some of America's best-known humorists—authors, comedians, actors—offer biting commentary on what it means to share a life, and a heart, with a dog. The NBC

Today Show calls Rouse a "must-read author" of "laugh-out-loud" memoirs. He will donate a portion of the book's proceeds to The Humane Society.



Banned Books Week Art Hop & Read Out

October 7, Reception, 5-8 pm;

Read Out, 5:30-7:30 pm, CEN

View artwork inspired by banned books, then vote for the People's Choice art contest winner. Hear local personalities, including Lori Moore, Lorraine Caron, Deb Percy, and others, read from all six of the banned books. Angela Maycock, from the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom, will introduce the readings. Refreshments. Door prizes!

discussions

P Reading Range

September 14, 6 pm, CEN

October 12, 6 pm, CEN

Bring a brown bag meal (optional) then talk about *Walking Across Egypt* by Clyde Edgerton in September and Nicholas Sparks' *Safe Haven* in October. RSVP—call 568-8004 or online at readingrange.wordpress.com.

P Classics Revisited

September 15, 7 pm, CEN

October 20, 7 pm, CEN

Join lovers of classic literature to discuss James Joyce's *Ulysses* in September and Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* in October. www.classicbookgroup.blogspot.com

R Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.

P Program offered/sponsored by partner organization. Contact info at www.kpl.gov/calendar.

& more

R Ask a Lawyer

September 9, October 14,

11:30 am-1 pm, CEN

October 4, 6-8 pm, POW

Free legal clinic with Bar Association lawyers.
Call 553-7920 for a 20-minute appointment.

Reflections on Getting Married

September 27, 6 pm, POW,

Jumping the Broom

October 25, 6 pm, POW,

Why Did I Get Married?

Compare and contrast two movies about African Americans and marriage. Two socioeconomically opposite families clash when they meet for the first time on the eve of their children's wedding in *Jumping the Broom*. *Why Did I Get Married?* reveals what happens to one family when a sexy young temptress arrives on the scene. Discussion and refreshments at each screening.



Lord of the Gourd

October 17, 2-7 pm, OSH

October 20, 2-7 pm, CEN

Watch a professional pumpkin sculptor play with his food! Pat Harrison specializes in carving completely edible meals—fruits and vegetables that are carved into whimsical designs, then often cooked and eaten. He specializes in oddly-shaped pumpkins this time of year. Eat Local, Kalamazoo, cosponsor.



concerts

Joe Wang and the Test Pilots

September 21, 7 pm, CEN

Best appreciated live, this guitar-driven quartet regularly performs a unique collection of original material, self-stylized covers, and one-hit wonders. They describe their music as "album oriented power pop for people with a brain" featuring heavy "roots rock" and "alt. country" overtones.



Gifts or Creatures

October 19, 7 pm, CEN

Husband-wife duo Brandon and Bethany Foote fuses midwestern folklore, old world history, and cinematic soundscapes to create a unique blend of antique Americana with a growing patchwork of fretted and keyboard instruments. They released their debut album *Pilot House* with Earthwork Music in winter 2010.



history & genealogy

R Genealogy Lock-In

September 23, 6-10 pm, CEN

After-hours event for genealogists. Registration required; call 553-7808 or register online starting August 29.

R Intro to Genealogy

October 7, 9:30-11:30 am, CEN

October 7, 1:30-3:30 pm, EAS

Learn how to start compiling your family tree through databases like Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, KPL's index to local publications, plus important print sources, major collections, and more. Registration required; call 553-7808 or register online starting September 19.

Resting in Peace

October 18, 7 pm, CEN

Explore local burial grounds, from secluded family graveyards to historic cemeteries to modern memorial parks. Hear a brief history of American cemeteries; learn the stories and symbolism of interesting or unusual stones, plots, and markers in Southwest Michigan.



news

friedman services

Devoted KPL patron Blanch Field Friedman made two significant gifts to Kalamazoo Public Library, the first in 1990 and the other as a bequest in 1997, to help KPL provide services to the visually impaired.

For years, the library's Friedman Room housed an Optelec Reader and Braille typewriter. No longer confined to just one room, the renamed Friedman Services now offers new assistive technology, both on handheld devices and software applications, like ZoomText, on KPL's public computers.

Two KNFB mobile readers and two SmartView pocket magnifiers make text accessible to those with low vision. A dedicated scanner installed with Kurzweil 3000 software converts text to speech. KPL's new embosser renders text as tactile Braille cells, using Braille translation software.

To learn more, please call 553-7801 or visit the Central Library 2nd floor Information Desk.



local database

More than 40 years ago, KPL developed and continues to maintain several useful resources for local and area information.

The Local Organization Directory features more than 900 social service agencies; civic, service and common-interest clubs; self-help groups; churches and other nonprofit organizations.

Library staff annually update entries with contact information, organization goals, services, nonprofit status, and more.

Learn more at 553-7831 or visit www.kpl.gov/local-orgs.

The Local Information Database combines indexing of local publications, historical photos, and Local History Resources. The more than 3 million records include local, area, and state news stories with a local angle, plus published vital statistics.

Learn what has been indexed at www.kpl.gov/local-info or call the Local History Room, 553-7808, with questions or to schedule a demonstration.

giving to the library

More than 150 individuals, foundations, businesses, and organizations, including Blanch Field Friedman, have given almost \$4.5 million to support the library's mission since 1990. Their gifts have purchased materials or equipment and paid for programs or services beyond the means of the library's annual budget. Those whose gifts have totaled \$1,000 or more may be found on the library's Wall of Honor, www.kpl.gov/support/donors.

Another Great Sale

September 10, 9 am-3:30 pm, CEN

Thousands of titles at 10¢ each or \$2 for a bag full—it's another Friends of KPL book sale, featuring exceptionally good stock!

Book lovers will find boundless bargains in children's, fiction, nonfiction, mystery, romance, biography, and even large print books. Friends volunteers will refill the tables as long as supplies last. Fill up your own bag or buy a brown grocery bag from the Friends.

Let the Friends offer you this easy opportunity to support your library while enjoying a wonderful time browsing through quality books. Teachers take note—this could be the place to add books to your classroom library without breaking the budget! Circle the date on your calendar and join us.

Senior Expo

**October 4, 9 am-3 pm,
County Fairgrounds**

Visit the Kalamazoo Public Library booth at Senior Expo!

Learn about KPL services of interest to seniors, including new assistive technology at the Central Library and Via Mail, the home delivery service for library district residents who can't get to a library location.



tween/teen

J-Pop Club

September 26, October 24, 3:30-5 pm, CEN

Enjoy Japanese anime, manga, Pocky, and food. Drop in any time during the event! Gr 7-12.

Picture It

October 21

Show off your creative side! Submit your favorite photos on our Facebook page, and we'll showcase the best in Central's Teen area. See our website for more details!

Gamers' Arena

September 3, 2-4:30 pm, CEN

September 13, October 11, 6-7:30, POW

September 15, October 20, 4:30-6 pm, EAS

Accept the challenge! Play one of our many board, card, role-playing, or video games, or bring your own. Strategy, skill, fun @ kpl. Gr 5-12.

® Cartooning with Kenji

September 20, 6-7 pm, POW

October 4, 4-5 pm, WSQ

October 11, 4-5 pm, EAS

Improve your cartooning skills! Learn tips and techniques from comics master Kenji Jumanne-Marshall. Gr 5-12.

® Open Roads Bike Tech

September 24, 2-4 pm, CEN

Open Roads teaches kids to fix and refurbish tired, old bikes, giving them a new life! Hear how you can get involved and learn new skills. Ages 11-15.

Ultra Monster Movie-o-Rama

October 29, CEN

12:30 pm, *Ghostbusters*
2:30 pm, 9

Scare yourself silly before Halloween! Grab a bag of popcorn and get retro with the horror/comedy film, *Ghostbusters*, then stay for the post-apocalyptic CGI fantasy, 9. Gr 7-12.



Authors @ the Zoo

November 3, 6:30 pm

Meet Holly Black, creator of *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and the *Curse Workers* series, and Robin Wasserman, author of the *Seven Deadly Sins* series and the *Cold Awakening Trilogy*. They'll sign their books and tell you how they create their fantastical and horrifying worlds.



Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)

September 7, October 5, 3:30-5 pm, CEN

Plan programs and service projects, discuss books, movies, music, and web sites, eat snacks, play games, and have fun! Gr 7-12.

Teen Read Week: Picture It @ your library

October 16-22, 2011

Read-a-Thon

October 22, 10 am-4 pm, CEN

Celebrate Teen Read Week by reading for the fun of it and for the philanthropy of it! Teen Services will host a six-hour Read-a-Thon to benefit Kalamazoo Area Loaves and Fishes. Pick up a registration form at the Teen Desk, gather pledges of non-perishable food items, and read all day!

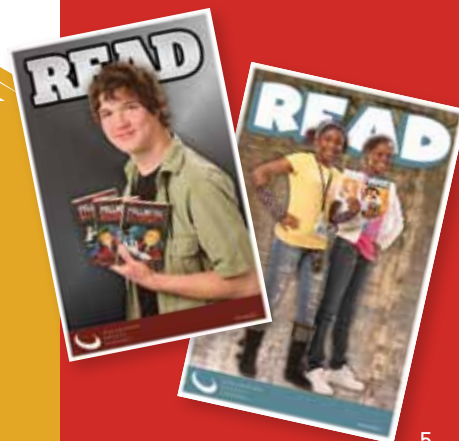
Donations need to be turned in by November 4. Snacks, prizes, game breaks, and lunch provided!! Bring your favorite book and have a professional photo taken for your very own READ poster!

® Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.



Call for Entries! 9th Annual Teen Filmmaker Fest

Teen film directors and movie makers—create a film to enter in the the best and biggest film festival for teens in Southwest Michigan! Juried films will be shown at the Film Festival at Rave Cityplace 14 on February 26, 2012. Expert judges will award prizes for the best films in a number of categories. Films due January 21, 2012. Learn more at www.kpl.gov/teens/filmmakerfest



* Tim Bowers, the illustrator of *Memoirs of a Goldfish*, 2011 Michigan Reads! winner, visits KPL through Michigan Reads!, generously sponsored by Target and the Library of Michigan Foundation.

kids

📌 LEGO at the Library

September 3, 10:30-11:30 am, OSH
September 24, 10-11 am, CEN
October 1, 10:30-11:30 am, OSH
October 29, 10-11 am, CEN

Build, create, race, imagine with other Lego fans at Lego Club. All bricks provided, from Duplo to Expert Builder. Registration required. All ages welcome!

Toddler Talk

September 7, 14, 21, 28, 10 am-12 pm, OSH
October 5, 12, 19, 26, 10 am-12 pm, OSH
Toddlers play while adults share joys/challenges of the 1-3 year old. Connie Koning, RN, facilitator.

Baby Talk

September 7, 14, 21, 28, 1:30-3:30 pm, OSH
October 5, 12, 19, 26, 31, 1:30-3:30 pm, OSH
Talk about care of babies up to 1 year with other parents/caregivers. Connie Koning, RN, facilitator.

Reading with Bailey

September 7, 14, 21, 28, 4-6 pm, CEN
Enjoy a "pawsitive" experience reading to Bailey the loveable Schnoodle (Schnauzer/Poodle mix). Call 553-7804 for an appointment.

📌 Fairy Gardens

September 17, 10:30 OSH
Imagine a fairy peeking at you. Wonder where she lives? In a fairy garden! Learn about fairies and make a fairy garden to take home. Gr 1-4.

📌 Kevin Devine's Musical Circus

September 19, 6:30 pm, OSH
Award-winning musician Kevin Devine dazzles with mad-cap shenanigans, musical hi-jinx, and original songs. Have a rollicking good time! Family.



Kitten Care 101

September 27, 6:30 pm EAS
Getting a new kitten or cat? How can you help your cat's best qualities to shine? Meet two friendly kittens and learn about their care. Family.

What in the World Are You Eating?

September 29, 5 pm, POW
Kalamazoo Nature Center shares fun stories about origins of some everyday foods. Family.

📌 Who Gives a Hoot?

October 4, 6:30-7:30 pm, WSQ
Who's making that noise? Learn how these nocturnal animals adapt to life at night. Meet live owls from the Kalamazoo Nature Center. Family.

📌 Pumpkin Parade

October 11, 6-7 pm, OSH
Celebrate the season with stories, craft, and snack inspired by the big orange gourd! Ages 3-8.

📌 Joel Tacey's Spooktacular Comedy Show

October 11, 6:30 pm, EAS
Funnyman Joel Tacey's hilarious, high-energy Halloween show features costumes, comedy, juggling, magic, and more. Family.



- 📌 Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.
- 📌 Space limited; ticket required. Pick up FREE ticket one hour before event; one ticket per person.

🕒 Meet the Illustrator*

October 14, 10 am, CEN

Illustrator Tim Bowers will lead art activities based on his hilarious picture book, *Memoirs of a Goldfish*.

What happens when a fishbowl gets too full? Poor Goldfish's expressions tell the story. 3-6 yrs.



🍕 Lotsa Pizzabilities

October 18, 6-7 pm, OSH

October is National Pizza Month! Time to celebrate one of our favorite foods. We'll share interesting pizza facts and read delicious pizza stories. Roll up your sleeves and knead some pizza dough. End the evening by indulging in some delicious pizza. Family.

Singalong Storytime

October 20, 6:30 pm, CEN

Storytime fun for families and kids of all ages. Your favorite singalong songs, puppets, and fun!

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

October 24, 6-7 pm, OSH

October 25, 12-8 pm, OSH

What happens at the library after people go home? Your stuffed animal can spend the night and find out! Bring your stuffed friend to our library sleepover. Both of you can enjoy a bedtime story and snack, then you bid your friend goodnight. Pick up your stuffed friend the next day. You may be surprised at what you learn!



👻 Sweet and Spooky

October 25, 6-7 pm, OSH

Create a creepy Halloween gingerbread and candy house to frighten friends and family. Gr 2-6.

Mask Making

October 27, 3:30-5 pm, POW

Drop in to make your very own mask with markers, beads, feathers, and more. Gr 1-6.

Movie and Popcorn

October 31, 3:30 pm, POW

Enjoy popcorn while you watch *Monster House*! A fun, free event for the whole family.

Storytimes

Librarians consider developmental stages when planning stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts.

Family Storytime

Mondays, 10 am, CEN

Tuesdays, 2 pm, WSG

Wednesdays, 10:30 am, POW

Thursdays, 10:30 am, EAS and OSH

Fun for the whole family from September 1 through October 31. Stories and activities designed for preschoolers, from birth to age 5, but younger and older siblings welcome.

Toddler Storytime

September 6, 13, 20, 27, 10 am, CEN

Stories, songs, simple crafts for 2-3½ year olds.

Preschool Storytime

October 4, 11, 18, 25, 10 am, CEN

Stories, crafts, fun activities for 3½-5 year olds.

Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee

November 16, 6-9 pm

Join the fun at the 11th Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee!

Sponsor a team of spellers and cheerleaders at this wild and wacky event. Many sponsorship opportunities available. Call 553-7803.



KPL leads Ready to Read, a community collaboration that encourages parents to read aloud to children, beginning at birth. By sharing the joy of reading, parents help prepare their children to learn to read and for future success in school.

The Bee raises funds to buy gift books for children. Last year, Ready to Read gave almost 20,000 storybooks to children in Kalamazoo County. To learn more and see Bee photos and video, visit www.kpl.gov/ready-to-read.

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director's note

KPL Supports Learning Network



The recently created Learning Network seeks to develop "the potential of every young person by creating a culture of learning at home, in schools, at work, and throughout the community.

KPL was thrilled to host the announcement of this exciting new initiative, especially since the network lists literacy as the first of its five goals. The Learning Network plans to build on community strengths, leveraging existing and new resources, to prepare our children for success, particularly those living in poverty.



As I wrote in a previous issue of *LINK*, the #1 goal of our strategic planning process is to create young readers—to provide children from birth to five years programs, services, and materials to prepare them to enter school ready to learn.



Research reveals that children learn to read more easily if parents read to them regularly, starting at birth. Early readiness to read helps prepare children for success in school and, eventually, employment.

KPL promotes literacy by working with young children and their families in a wide variety of programs and services. These include KPL's early childhood literacy collaboration, Ready to Read, which encourages parents to read aloud to their children through parent training, modeling by volunteer readers, gift books, and community events like the June 1st community-wide storytime in Bronson Park.

Family storytimes, the Global Reading Challenge, summer reading games, author visits, the annual youth literature seminar, a parenting collection and programs, and numerous family events engage families and youth throughout the year.

Active partnerships and library support for a growing number of organizations that serve kids and families—including Head Start, Communities in Schools, the Nurse Family Partnership, Great Start Collaborative, Kalamazoo Literacy Council, and many others—underscore the library's value in a literate community.

We look forward to working with and supporting The Learning Network.

Ann Rohbaugh

Central Library – CEN

315 S Rose St, 49007
553-7800

Friends of the Library Bookstore

315 S Rose St, 49007
553-7820

Eastwood – EAS

1112 Gayle Ave, 49048
553-7810

Oshtemo – OSH

7265 W Main St, 49009
553-7980

Alma Powell – POW

1000 W Paterson St, 49007
553-7960

Washington Square – WSQ

1244 Portage St, 49001
553-7970

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